

as it grew in prestige and national recognition. U.S. News & World Report has ranked Mercer as one of the leading institutions in the South for 14 consecutive years. The Princeton Review named Mercer among "The Best in North America," and USA Today ranked Mercer among the Top 10 in three categories for its National Academic Achievement Awards for student-athletes.

Mr. Speaker, Kirby Godsey's strong, perceptive, caring, steady and engaging leadership has been critical to Mercer's success. Without him and his commitment to Mercer, I believe Mercer would not be the University it is today. But Mr. Speaker, Kirby Godsey's beneficial influence did not end at Mercer's borders. He has been a remarkable force for progress in Macon and Middle Georgia. The lives and projects he touched for the better would be too numerous to mention even if I were capable of cataloging them all. Let just a few examples suffice. Under Kirby's leadership, Mercer partnered with the City of Macon and others to successfully revitalize and transform the neighborhoods surrounding Mercer's campus. Indeed, Kirby Godsey's Mercer became a major force for rejuvenating Macon's central business district. And Mercer's School of Medicine and its School of Engineering were no more than dreams before Kirby Godsey's tenure. Now Mercer-trained physicians provide care in underserved rural areas while Mercer engineers serve our nation at Warner Robins Air Logistics Center.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD forever include this brief acknowledgement of the accomplishments of Kirby Godsey as President of Mercer University. He will continue to bless those around him with his uncanny wisdom and grace. Few leave such enduringly positive legacies.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DONALD  
ROBB

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Donald L. Robb, Jr. retired United States Air Force Major, who passed away on January 11, 2006 in Boulder City, Nevada.

Donald was born in Ohio and grew up in Ohio and Florida. After a few years of college, He enlisted in the Air Force after he felt the call of duty for his country. During his time in the military, Donald was stationed at bases in South Carolina, Japan, California, South Korea and Nevada. As Director of Administration for Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, he supervised over 100 personnel. He was the first such director to receive a "1" rating from the Inspector General team. For a total of twenty years Donald served his country as a navigator and an administration officer. He received many awards for his dedicated and outstanding military service, including; the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, the Combat Ready Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Vietnam Service Medal with six Oak Leaf Clusters, the Republic Vietnam

Campaign Medal and Republic Vietnam Gallant Cross.

Donald is survived by his children, Donald L. Robb, III, David A. Robb, Daniel L. Robb and Diana L. Robb, and his wife, Marcia Robb.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MR.  
WILLIAM B. WELLING

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of an extraordinary individual who spent his life serving his country and fellow man. On April 15, 2006, Mr. William B. Welling passed away at the age of 82. A man of great sincerity, integrity, humility, courtesy, wisdom and charity, Mr. Welling was a trusted friend and mentor to many and will be sorely missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

A man of many hats, Bill was a historian, photographer, editor, writer, author and WWII Veteran. His love of knowledge coupled with his strong work ethic helped him to find success in all of his endeavors.

After honorably serving his country in WWII, Bill returned to the U.S. and earned a degree from Yale University. Upon graduating, he put his many talents to work. His extensive career included serving as a reporter/aviation editor for the Baltimore Evening Sun, account executive for a New York advertising agency, and chief of technical publicity for the Baltimore Division of the Martin Company. He also edited a quarterly for the North American employees of the Danish owned Maersk line and regularly contributed articles to trade and professional media.

Aside from his business career, Bill was recognized as a photo historian both in the U.S. and overseas. For five years he edited Photographica for the American Photographic Historical Society. This followed the publication of his Collector's Guide to Nineteenth Century Photographs, which was the first book for the photography collecting market published in the U.S. He is also the author of Photography in America, The Formative Years 1839-1900 and East Side Story which was privately published on behalf of the Boys Brotherhood Republic of New York.

His strong belief that he had an obligation to help the youth of his community drove Bill to spend many years working with the Boys Brotherhood Republic, a youth recreation center on the Lower East Side. The organization teaches inner city youth the principles of self government and the value of education as a means to transcend the perils of negative youth activity. The 6 to 18 year old citizens of the Boys Brotherhood Republic (BBR) elect their own mayor and city council, and administer their own police and court systems. Under Bill's guidance these young men became adults, learning how to solve everyday problems as responsible committed citizens.

Mr. Speaker, Bill's greatest assets in life were his intellect and sense of humor. His exceptional ability to pass on knowledge with constant wit and charm always made him the "life of the party", leaving all whom he encountered feeling not only joyful but more intelligent as well.

There is an old saying: "If you have knowledge, let others light their candles in it." The book on the life William B. Welling was completed on April 15, 2006. He can no longer offer advice, make us laugh, or personally pass on his vast wisdom to younger generations; however, his indomitable spirit lives on through the countless candles he helped others to light. Surely that is the mark of a meaningful life.

For unyielding service to his country, family, friends and community and for being an inspiration to us all, I ask my colleagues to join me in bidding a final farewell to a great American, Mr. William B. Welling.

STATEMENT ON H.R. 5020

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I opposed the Renzi amendment because, while we all oppose leaks in our intelligence community, we have learned more about the illegal wiretapping program, the use of torture and extraordinary rendition, and the situation in Iraq from leaks to media outlets than we have from the administration. While we should do our best to prevent intelligence leaks, we must also ensure that we aren't being complicit in the cover-up of illegal activities or the manipulation of intelligence.

I also voted against final passage of the Intelligence Authorization bill because, while it is a fine bill, it represents a missed opportunity. Democrats have tried to address the series of intelligence scandals, yet were prevented from doing so by continued abuses of the legislative process by the Republican majority.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. I join the Jewish people in the State of Israel, the United States, and across the globe in remembering and honoring the 6 million Jews who were brutally murdered by the Nazi regime during the Holocaust.

April 25, 2006 is a day for all people to reflect upon that most horrific period of history. The Holocaust demonstrated that even a supposedly cultured society could tolerate the most senseless atrocities. We must keep in mind that the Nazi genocide against the Jews was not perpetrated solely by a lone crazed individual. It was the carefully considered plan, years in the works, of a group of genocidal fanatics, which won the support of an entire nation. The Holocaust reflected the worst potential inherent in human nature for hatred of an entire religion simply for existing.

I am privileged to represent diverse cultures in Brooklyn. In my district lives a large but dwindling population of Holocaust survivors. Many of these survivors rebuilt their lives with nothing more than the shirt on their back. Today, based on the strong foundations of